



Not accepting resumes at this time. Updated 1/7/03.

The California Attorney General's Summer Honors Program

Criminal Law Division, Appeals, Writs, & Trials Section

The California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Sacramento Office, is currently recruiting students for its 2003 Summer Honors Program. The Criminal Division, Appeals, Writs, & Trial Section ("AWT") provides exciting and rewarding opportunities for candidates interested in pursuing a career in public service generally or criminal law specifically.

Deputy Attorneys General in AWT represent the People of California in post-conviction proceedings. This involves prosecuting felony criminal appeals in state court, responding to petitions for writs of habeas corpus in state and federal courts, and prosecuting death penalty appeals. Deputies in this section also handle criminal investigations, conduct evidentiary hearings, appear in local courts to litigate recusal motions, and prosecute felonies in cases in which the local county district attorney has been recused or otherwise removed from the case. Deputies in AWT appear regularly in the California Court of Appeal, California Supreme Court, United States District Court, and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and appear occasionally in the United States Supreme Court.

Each student participating in Sac-AWT's summer program will be responsible for drafting Respondent's Briefs that are filed in the California Courts of Appeal for the Third and Fifth Appellate Districts in appeals from felony convictions. This involves reviewing the record on appeal, conducting research, analyzing legal issues, and developing arguments. The student team is supervised by a deputy, and all student briefs are reviewed and critiqued. Each student is responsible for managing his or her own caseload. Appeals involve issues of criminal law and procedure, including constitutional, evidentiary, and instructional issues. Students who are certified by the California State Bar may have an opportunity to argue before the California Court of Appeal.

Applicants for the Sac-AWT program must have excellent writing, research, and analytical skills. Applicants should have completed law school classes in constitutional law, evidence, criminal law, criminal procedure, and research and writing. Appellate and trial advocacy may be helpful. Work experience in the field of criminal law is beneficial, though not required. Because of the demands of the Sac-AWT program, only students who have completed at least two years of law school are generally accepted into the program. However, applications from first-year students with exceptional qualifications will be considered.

AWT has deputies in four cities in addition to Sacramento: Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Fresno. Students interested in applying to Sac-AWT's program should submit a cover letter, resume, transcript (unofficial is acceptable), and short writing sample to:

Wanda Hill Rouzan
California Attorney General's Criminal Law Summer Honors Program, Sacramento
California Department of Justice
1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Sac-AWT expects to have between five to eight positions for summer 2003. Paid students earn approximately \$1,800 per month, depending upon the number of units of law school completed. Work-study students earn approximately \$10 per hour. Volunteer students may arrange to receive academic credit. Applicants interested in the Summer Honors Program in Sacramento or one of the other cities, or in other employment opportunities in the Attorney General's Office, are encouraged to visit the Attorney General's website at <http://www.ag.ca.gov>.